

EXPLOSIONS FELT IN FIVE STATES LOSS AMOUNTING TO TWENTY FIVE MILLION

REPORTED CARRANZA WILL RETIRE IN FAVOR OF GONZALES

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

LAREDO, Tex., July 30.—Venustiano Carranza is to retire as the first chief of the de facto government of Mexico at an early date and will be succeeded by General Pablo Gonzalez, according to information given out by Mexican administrative circles in Nuevo Laredo tonight.

General Carranza will enter the field as a presidential candidate at the forthcoming general elections, it was said this afternoon, apparently confirming recent unofficial advice from Mexico City, which intimated that the first chief would seek elevation to the presidency at the hands of the voters.

The conference of Mexican generals with Carranza soon to be held in Mexico City according to these advisers, will arrange for the election for general elections and for the retirement of the first chief. This conference was said to have been summoned to prevent military friction in military circles over the proposed transfer of power.

While no date has been set for the conference, several high officers of the de facto government military forces have left the border within the last few days with the announced intention of proceeding to Mexico City to confer with Carranza, who is believed in Nuevo Laredo that the accession of Gonzalez to the administrative power will not be delayed long.

MARATHON, Tex., July 30.—Reports of a large body of Mexicans, well mounted and armed, camped on the Mexican side of the Rio Grande, near the Stillwell crossing, 30 miles below Bosqueville in the Big Bend district, were brought here today by Thomas Roberts and Doc Walker, who said they saw the Mexicans, whom they believed to be bandits.

Walker, who came up with his family, said he counted 500 Mexicans in one group, with their horses, and other groups were scattered up and down the river. He said the house were full and the men were armed. Their number, according to his estimate, could not be less than 500. There was no indication that they were Carranzistas, he reported.

Roberts said he talked with some of the men, who were friendly to him. Roberts is connected with the wax factory at Stillwell, where

SAY RUSSIAN ATTACKS HAVE BEEN HALTED

(Continued from Page One)

and 348,000 men were French, 30,000 officers and 1,200,000 men were Russian, and 947 officers and 20,000 men were British.

The war booty brought to Germany in addition to that utilized immediately at the front comprised 11,000 machine guns, 4,500,000 shells, 1,450 machine guns and 1,500,000 rifles.

According to the list of statistics of German wounded soldiers, 80 per cent returned to the front, 14 per cent died and the rest were unfit for service and were released. The military measures of the central powers, in consequence of vaccination, were never disturbed by epidemics.

When the Zeppelin airship raided the English coast on the night of July 28, a statement issued by the German admiralty today asserts, bombs were dropped on the British naval bases of Grimsby and Immingham. Despite the fire of anti-aircraft guns, all the airships returned home undamaged. The statement reads:

"On the night of the 28th, our naval airship squadron attacked the English coast east. Bombs were dropped on the railway plant at Lincoln, the industrial establishments near Norwich, on the naval bases at Grimsby and Im-

mingham, and on patrol vessels on the Humber. The light house at the mouth of the Humber was also hit. Bombs were dropped on the British naval bases of Grimsby and Immingham. Despite the fire of anti-aircraft guns, all the airships returned home undamaged. The statement reads:

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the arrival of a large supply train is expected shortly. The only garrison at this point consists of 26 men of 1 company, Fourth Texas infantry, who are entrenched on a hill back of the wax factory.

As the foothills mountains extend to Stillwell, the Mexicans had to circle around 50 miles to reach this point, a fact that has increased the feeling of apprehension at Stillwell.

BROWNVILLE, Texas, July 30.—Several shots were exchanged last night between outposts and guards at the camp of the First Illinois cavalry and supposed Mexican bandits who apparently were attempting to raid picket lines of cavalry horses. So far as is known, there were no casualties on either side. The shooting took place two and one-half miles north of Brownville.

COLUMBUS, N. M., July 30.—Massachusetts troops entering the aviation field, two miles east of the Columbus base headquarters, report that early this morning four shots were fired in their direction by unknown parties, but without result. Later in the morning the sentries in that district approached two Americans with hunting rifles in their possession. After an examination the Americans were released. Responsibility for the shots has not yet been fixed.

EL PASO, Tex., July 30.—Hundreds of Americans crossed the Rio Grande today to attend the first bull fight and bronco busting contest held in Juarez since the Villa regime. Both General Francisco Gonzalez, commandant and Andres Garcia, local Mexican consul, expressed gratification over the number attending, the largest to venture into the Mexican town since the beginning of the recent crisis and pointed out that it was an indication of an increasing friendliness between the people of the two towns.

The bull rings, resplendent in color, were thronged with Mexican soldiers, their rifles lying across their knees, and their cartridge belts swung loosely about their bodies. Interspersed between them, about the arena, sat American men, an occasional hundred of gaily dressed Mexicans.

Amateur matadors participated in the fight and volunteer vaqueros in the contest, the affair being for the benefit of the flood sufferers in the Queretaro district.

Austrian Statement

VIENNA, (Via London), July 30.—The Austrian official statement issued today reads:

"The battles in east Galicia and Volhynia continue with undiminished violence, especially near Molodyoff, northwest of Kolomea and west and northwest of Buczacz, but the Russian attacks were unsuccessful. West of Lutsk, the Russians temporarily succeeded in penetrating our trenches, but were ejected by a counter attack."

TURKISH STATEMENTS
CONSTANTINOPLE, July 30.—(Via London)—An official statement issued by the Turkish war department under date of July 28 said:

"Near Erzurum warships captured some enemy ships with foodstuffs, killing nine and wounding four Englishmen.

"Caucasus.—The enemy after artillery and infantry fire pushed forward reconnoitering detachment on the right wing where he tried to reach our trenches but everywhere was driven off by our fire. In this sector an enemy cavalry detachment was scattered by our violent artillery fire. In the other sectors there was no important news.

"Egypt.—In the vicinity of Katia, east of the Suez canal, our engagements continue favorably to us."

"Two long cuts of cars were successfully removed from the danger zone before the rapidly spreading fire engulfed the balance."

"It has not as yet been definitely determined just what the money loss will be. Some 40,000 tons of raw sugar and approximately \$1,000,000 are known to be lost. It is believed that the other contents of the warehouses destroyed will greatly increase this amount. There were no explosives stored in the warehouses. Two of the cars destroyed were loaded with shrapnel, which would not have been a source of danger but for outside fire. Two other cars destroyed were loaded principally with salt and pork."

"The scene of the explosion and fire is in no way adjacent to the main passenger and freight terminals of the Lehigh Valley railroad, either at New York or Jersey City, and the mishap will not interfere with the operation of business."

Edmund L. Mackenzie, president of the National Storage company, declared tonight that the plant of his concern was valued at \$7,000,000, while the contents of the warehouses, probably were worth \$10,000,000. One of the warehouses, which remains intact he said is filled with chemicals. Besides the great quantity of raw sugar burned, there were 24,000 boxes of tobacco, raw cotton from China and Japan and other merchandise. The loss to his company and the railroad, Mr. Mackenzie said, was partly covered by insurance.

"As far as I have been able to ascertain, after a personal investigation," said Mr. Mackenzie, "there apparently has not been a great loss of life. This undoubtedly is due to the fact that few persons live in the immediate vicinity of our plant. There were, of course, a number of private watchmen and firemen on the ground at the time, but all of these except two have been accounted for."

The body of an unidentified young man was recovered from the water off the Lehigh river. A child in Jersey City, according to the police, died from shock after the first explosion. Many men told thrilling stories of "having been blown hundreds of feet over head and tail."

Most of the sixty or more injured taken to Jersey City hospitals were struck by shrapnel, falling glass or debris. Nearly all were in the railroad yards or on craft moored near

AMMUNITION FOR SUPPLY TO ALLIES EXPLODES CROSSING MANY DEATHS; HEAVY PROPERTY LOSS

(By Republican Associated Press Leased Wire)

NEW YORK, July 30.—Property loss estimated at \$25,000,000 was caused early today by a series of terrific explosions of ammunition awaiting shipment to the allies and stored on Black Tom island, a small strip of land jutting into New York bay off Jersey City. The loss of life still was problematical tonight. It will not be determined definitely until there has been opportunity to check up the workmen employed on the island and on boats moored nearby.

Three are known to be dead and at least five more are missing. Scores of persons were injured, some of them probably mortally. The detonations, which were felt in five states, began with a continuous rapid fire of small shells, the blowing up of great quantities of dynamite, trinitrotoluene and other high explosives, followed by the bursting of thousands of shrapnel shells which literally showered the surrounding country and waters for many miles around.

Fire that started soon after the first great crash which spread death and desolation in its wake, destroyed thirteen of the huge warehouses of the National Storage company on Black Tom island, in which were stored merchandise valued at between \$12,000,000 and \$15,000,000. The flames shooting into the clouds, were reflected against New York's "skyline" of towering office buildings, which only a few moments before were shaken to their foundations by an earthquake. Miles of streets in Manhattan alone were strewn with broken glass and shattered tin.

Early reports of heavy loss of life were impossible of verification and the assumed number of deaths probably would be small. It was said that owing to the extent of the wreckage it might be several days before the exact figures could be obtained.

The cause of the disaster had not been determined tonight. Officials of the National Storage company and the Lehigh Valley railroad, which also suffered heavily through loss of property, declared, however, that reports to them showed at first started shortly after 1 o'clock this morning on a barge belonging to an independent towing company that had been moored alongside a dock used by the railroad company to transfer ammunition shipments from trains to vessels in the harbor.

The barge, it was said, was there without authority of either the railroad or the storage company. The officials refused to disclose the name of the independent towing company, saying they were investigating. It was certain whether the barge purposely had been set on fire as the result of a plot.

Warrants charging manslaughter were issued late tonight for the arrest of Albert M. Dickman, a guard at the Black Tom island docks for the Lehigh Valley railroad company; Theodore J. Johnson, head of the Johnson Lighterage and Towing company, from the other. An explosion on one of the barges damaged the structure housing the police plant.

Two other fire-swept craft grounded on the southwest corner of the island, which contains the contagious disease hospital. The medical staff removed the 450 immigrants on the island to the battery.

Many small craft as well as many good sized steamers and sailing vessels, were badly damaged. Crews on the big ocean liners anchored out in the harbor were driven up the New Jersey and New York water fronts, declared that when the first two great explosions occurred it appeared as if their vessels were literally picked up out of the water and then hurled back.

All New York and cities within a radius of 25 miles were awakened by the explosion. Within an hour six hundred telephone calls went over the police wires from excited inquirers. Hundreds of thousands of persons, many of them scantily clad, ran excitedly through the streets, and automobiles, containing policemen, firemen and others, dashed along. Detectives were rushed to Maiden Lane, the home of jewelry industry, to guard against thieves.

In the downtown section countless windows were broken. Scarcely an office building from the Battery to Fifth street escaped damage. More than a score of persons, according to the police, were injured in Manhattan and Brooklyn from flying glass.

Thousands of persons in Jersey City fled to the park after the first explosion. Paris stricken women wheeled baby carriages about, some of them praying and others screaming. Not until after dawn was the scene changed to one of stunned calmness. Then it was with difficulty that the police held the crowds back from the scene of disaster.

The fire on Black Tom island is still raging tonight. The large railroad yards of the Lehigh Valley, and the reclaimed meadow land for miles and miles around virtually were covered by a sea of flames. The fire was fed by thousands of barrels of oil and countless shrapnel shells, many of which had not exploded. Thousands of persons who flocked there from New York, Jersey City and elsewhere, watched hundreds of firemen at work in the ruins of the vast warehouse system.

Many of the visitors carried away shrapnel shells as souvenirs. In some instances they had dug them from the earth two or three miles away from the scene of the explosion.

C. W. Leyden, chief of the Lehigh Valley railroad police, was killed while aiding an engine crew in attempting to save a number of freight cars from the fire. A quantity of dynamite exploded near where he was standing. It was said and burst his body to atoms. The members of the car crew escaped with lacerations and burns.

The Lehigh Valley railroad tonight sent a telegram to the bureau of safety of the interstate commerce commission inviting co-operation in the investigation as to the cause of the explosions and fire.

The cause of the explosion and fire is in no way adjacent to the main passenger and freight terminals of the Lehigh Valley railroad, either at New York or Jersey City, and the mishap will not interfere with the operation of business."

THOMAS EDGAR STRIPPLING IS FREED BY GOVERNOR HARRIS



Gov. Nat Harris (top right), T. Edgar Strippling and his daughters Ruth May (top) and Bessie Lucile.

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

ATLANTA, July 29.—Thomas Edgar Strippling, who under an assumed name acted as chief of police of Danville, Va., while a fugitive from justice from Georgia on a murder charge, was paroled Saturday by Gov. Nat Harris, after serving five years of a life sentence in the state penitentiary. Broken in health he will join his family which has lived near the prison farm at Milledgeville since he was sent there. His case attracted considerable attention about a year ago when his young

daughter appealed to the governor for pardon. Strippling shot Bill Corbett in Harris county, Georgia, 19 years ago, claiming Corbett had insulted his wife and sister. While awaiting trial he escaped. He was joined by his wife and after a number of years went to Danville with his family. There he was elected chief of police and was considered an excellent official. He went under the name of R. E. Morris. On the day when the municipal council was to re-elect him his identity was discovered and he was taken back to Georgia.

REPORT OF GREAT FIRE IN PETROGRAD PRINTED IN BERLIN

[Republican A. P. Leased Wire]

BERLIN, July 30, via Sayville.—Reports of a great conflagration at Petrograd, in which a bridge across the river Neva, twelve large steamers, including several trans-Atlantic liners, a floating dock, the Putiloff guns works and other establishments were destroyed, are printed in the Lokal Anzeiger.

In the account of the fire the newspaper says:

"On Tuesday the wooden palace bridge across the Neva took fire at several places. Immediately floating pontoons drifting to Vassili Ostrov (Hassil island) where a huge fire broke out and also to the part where twelve large steamers, including several trans-Atlantic liners, a floating dock, the Putiloff guns works and other establishments took fire."

"The police suspect that the conflagration was the work of anarchists who planned to burn all public buildings being used for military purposes. The ground permitted the counter attacked troops to advance with some prospect of getting through the French curtain of fire. The French staff work, however, was too well done, and although the Germans struggled bravely and stubbornly all afternoon and well into the night they failed to regain an inch of ground. Wave after wave of German infantry was swept away by the well directed French machine guns and light artillery fire."

The Italian Statement
ROME, July 30.—(Via London)—The text of the Italian statement issued today follows:

"The Tofana plateau our infantry after artillery preparation attacked the enemy's line north of Monte Cimone. The fighting was very fierce in this rough, thickly wooded country, but our troops succeeded in gaining some ground."

"In the Tofana region our Alpine troops carried Porcella wood and began an advance in the Travençolas valley."

"In the Reinz valley an enemy attack against our position on Monte Piana was easily defeated."

"Our heavy artillery shelled the railway station of Sillian in the Drave valley."

Gains were also made by the French near the villages of Maurepas and Hem, which were held against powerful German attacks.

After a pause, the French echelon, north of the Somme, resumed operations today, giving further proof of the perfection of the new method by making a clean sweep of the German positions along a three and a half-mile front from Harcourt to the river. The French troops in Picardy had been waiting until the British carried out the operation assigned to them. That having been satisfactorily completed the central echelon received word to move forward against the German trenches on the eastern slopes of the ravine through which a light railroad runs from Comblès to Clercy and Peronne.

Every detail of the advance had been worked out with mathematical precision beforehand, and the operation was completed well within the time limit set. The attacking troops met with a more than usual amount of resistance from the Germans, who had foreseen the move and had made every preparation in their power to frustrate it. The positions had been strengthened as well as the incessant rain of projectiles from the French artillery permitted and a large force of reserves were called in to support the rear.

The German reserves were hurled forward as soon as the French dash slackened, and especially at the southern end of the line where the nature of

MODERATION BY TUESDAY SAYS WEATHER MAN

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tails of police before order could be restored. Women and children swooned from the heat and the crush and excitement. At Clarendon, the newest of the municipal beaches, the crowd made a rush for the entrances and the police life guards and other attendants found it impossible to control them. A riot call brought a hundred extra policemen and these restored the lines with the aid of clubs.

Reports of similar scenes at the other beaches caused Chief of Police Healy to order separate squads of mounted police to clear the principal streets leading to the lake which were crowded with men, women and children. Police ambulance doctors and a number of health department physicians were busy in restoring those overcome by heat and excitement.

Promise of relief from the torrid weather was held out to Chicagoans by the weather bureau tonight, which declared that an area of high pressure in the northwest would bring cloudy skies and cooler weather tomorrow.

Other points in the central west also reported tonight many deaths and prostrations because of the heat. Milwaukee, Wis., where the official thermometer registered 102½ today, reported twenty-three deaths from heat prostration.

In the great central valleys and the lake region the warm waves continued and extended in more moderate form into the middle and southern Atlantic states. At Milwaukee and at Escanaba and Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., temperatures of 102, 100 and 98 degrees were the highest of record of those stations. There was, however, according to the weather bureau, some moderation after midnight, with local thundershowers. It is also cooler in the west plains states and along the coast where there are also thundershowers, while west of the mountains temperatures are higher and above the reasonable average for a rule.

Six Die In Detroit

DETROIT, Mich., July 30.—Six deaths and several prostrations were reported as due to the excessive heat in Detroit today. Five local drownings also were reported. The highest temperature of the season, 108, was recorded at the government block on the street level at 3:30 this afternoon.

NOTED JURIST IS VICTIM OF SUDDEN ATTACK

(Continued from Page One)

every water right in the Salt River valley. The doctor is a pioneer and the basis of many subsequent ones, setting out water rights in many parts of the West.

Was Republican Delegate
Judge Kent was one of the republican delegates to the recent Chicago convention, being chosen here by the Maricopa county delegates before their appearance in the state convention at Tucson.

At Harvard, Judge Kent became a close friend of Colonel Roosevelt, who graduated the senior class of Trinity finished as a freshman. At Columbia Law school, Judge Kent met and became a friend of Charles E. Hughes.

Word of the death in Chicago of Judge Edmund Kent was first received here in a telegram from Mrs. A. R. Kent, his mother, to Floyd M. Stahl of the firm of Kent, Chalmers and Stahl, L. H. Chalmers, another partner, is in Berkeley, California, and has been notified.

Judge Kent was accompanying his mother to Denver, where she was to have remained for the balance of the summer, and he was to have come on to Phoenix. It is understood that the body will be taken to Mount Auburn cemetery, near Boston, for interment, but no announcement of funeral arrangements has been made.

Judge Kent was prominent in church work here, having been a member of the vestry of Trinity Episcopal church for eight years. He was closely identified with the St. Luke's Home, of which he was an incorporator and a trustee. Dr. John H. Foss, who died here less than two weeks ago was also a member of the board of trustees.

Expressions of deep regret were heard on every side when the news of Judge Kent's death was given out. While not formally announced, it is understood the Bar Association, of which he was a prominent member, will meet shortly to discuss the resignation of its keen regret over his loss.

He is survived by his widow, who is an invalid.

BAGGAGE CAR HOLDS; SAVES ENTIRE TRAIN

(Continued from Page One)

foot hole in such a way that the following cars also slid across the hole, pulled by the wreckage of the wheels. These cars then crashed down the embankment, coming to rest on the west side of the track. In a much less serious position, the engine, the baggage car and the first passenger car were stopped by the wreckage of the engine, which had been crushed by the force of the impact.

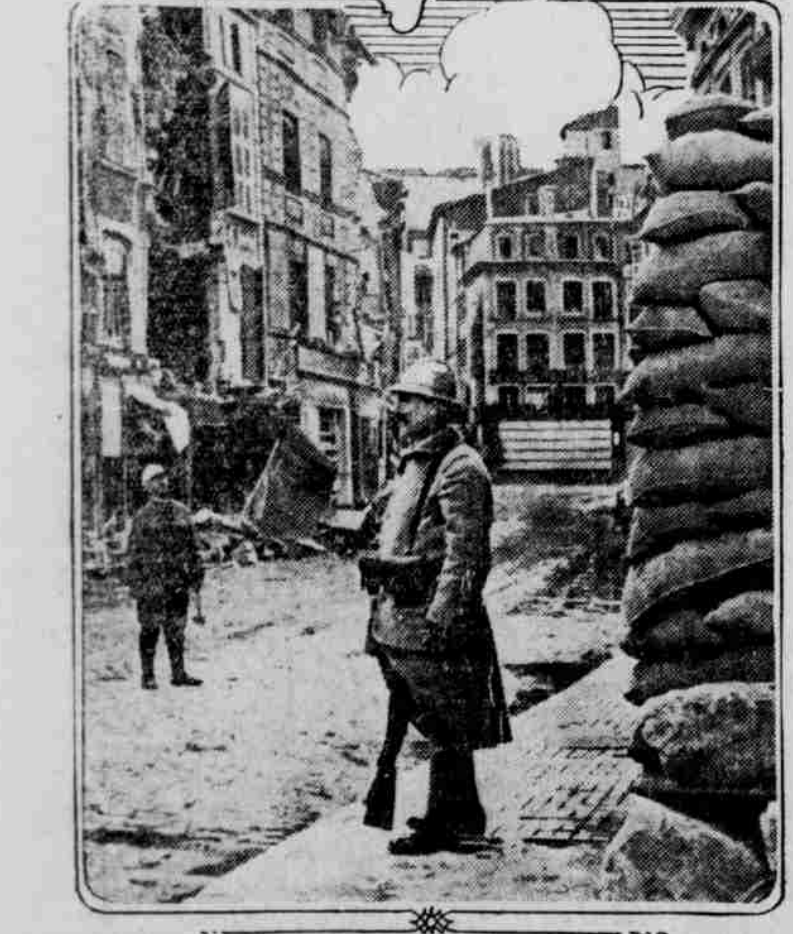
The relief train was sent out on the regular morning train to Prescott, and it picked up the passengers of the wrecked train, and those of the Ash Fork train. The return was made without incident, all reaching the city about noon.

"We found the crew and passengers scattered about the wreckage," said Shaughnessy. "Suit cases and other personal belongings were strewn about and many were resting in the shade of the wrecked train. One woman who had been ill the night before, had been provided with a cot."

The northbound and southbound trains traded crews, and Conductor McAdams went on with his passengers on the Ash Fork train.

"Wrecking outfits from Prescott, and every track worker from Phoenix to Tucson, was rushed to the scene, and the work of clearing the track started soon after they arrived. Arrangements have been made to transfer passengers and baggage today and tomorrow morning, and by tomorrow afternoon, the road will be clear and the span repaired."

GERMAN SHELLS BRING RUIN TO VERDUN



Verdun today—the shell-pitted and sandbagged streets of the town.

Verdun is deserted by all but its garrison of soldiers and firemen; the nearness of the combat on the north and east made the evacuation of the town by the civil population imperative. Fires, which are of daily occurrence and which are caused by the falling shell-storm, are beaten down by the special fire-fighting brigade in Verdun. Many of the buildings in the town are sand-bagged at their base and guarded by helmeted French soldiers, and whole areas are now in ruins.

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